backlog of SCs/STs in Dr. R. P. Centre in particular and, AIIMS in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No regular appointments to the post of Sr. Resident Doctors are being made in the Institute from July/September, 1994 onwards due to stay orders of the High Court of Delhi on reservation issue. In R.P. Centre of AIIMS, 26 Sr. Resident Doctors have been appointed on *ad-hoc* basis from July, 1994 till date, out of which 7 candidate belong to reserved categories. At present, *ad-hoc* appointments are being made with 22.5 per cent reservation for SC/ST candidates.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details regarding backlog of SCs/STs have been called for from the Institute.

Mantra therapy for treatment of incurable diseases

2520. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Mantra Therapy being practised by Tapaswi Janak Sahi in New Delhi, for Members of Parliament, for curing incurable diseases;

(b) if so, what is the number of MPs who have got the treatment and with what results;

(c) whether Government have recognised this ancient heritage; if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any research has been conducted in this therapy; if so, the results thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government have taken/propose to take any steps to preserve and propagate this ancient and valuable therapy in the world; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) There have been news items on Mantra Therapy. According to which Members of Parliament have been treated with this thedapy. However, the Government have no data about the number of Members of Parliament benefitted by the Ministry.

(c) to (e) Even though mantra therapy finds a mention in our authoritative classical texts, there are no scientific reports/clinical trails on the basis of which its therapeutic efficacy can be substantiated. The work of conducting research vests in the central council for research in Ayurveda and Siddha & Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy. These councils initiate research projects on the recommendations of their respective scientific advisory committees. Research on the subject could not be taken up primary because it did not figure in the priority laid down by the councils at present.

गांवों और शहरी गंदी बस्तियों में मुफ्त चिकित्सा सुविधाएं

5521. श्री इकबाल सिंह : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश के गांवों तथा घनी आबादी वाली शहरी गंदी बस्तियों की जनता के लिए मुफ्त चिकित्सा सुविधाएं देने तथा उनका विस्तार करने के संबंध में सरकार की नीति क्या है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय चिकित्सालयों द्वारा विभिन्न बीमारियों से पीड़ित गरीब व्यक्तियों के इलाज हेतु उनसे कुछ शुल्क लिया जाता है ; और